



Brownfields 2009 Grant Fact Sheet

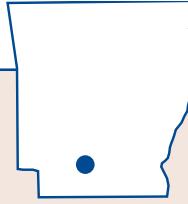
Camden, AR

EPA Brownfields Program

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders in economic development to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. On January 11, 2002, President George W. Bush signed into law the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act. Under this law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants through four competitive grant programs: assessment grants, revolving loan fund grants, cleanup grants, and job training grants. The brownfields job training grants provide residents of communities impacted by brownfields with the skills and training needed to effectively gain employment in assessment and cleanup activities associated with brownfield redevelopment and environmental remediation. Additionally, funding support is provided to state and tribal response programs through a separate mechanism.

Community Description

The City of Camden was selected to receive a job training grant. Located in southern Arkansas, Camden (population 13,154) is a rural community with a poverty rate of nearly 23 percent. Approximately 51 percent of Camden residents are minorities. This



Job Training Grant

\$200,000

EPA has selected the City of Camden for a job training grant. Students will be recruited from Camden and eight surrounding counties, with priority given to underemployed and unemployed residents. Camden plans to train 30 students, place at least 19 graduates in environmental technician jobs, and track students for one year. The training program will consist of three, 344-hour training cycles that include coursework in HAZWOPER, introduction to brownfields, overview of OSHA safety regulations, spill response, groundwater remediation, disposal of remediation waste, and asbestos supervisor. Twelve certifications will be offered. The primary trainer will be Southern Arkansas University Tech (SAU Tech). Camden will work with SAU Tech and the Arkansas Workforce Center to place graduates in environmental jobs.

Contacts

For further information, including specific grant contacts, additional grant information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at: www.epa.gov/brownfields.

Amber Perry, EPA Region 6

214-665-3172

www.epa.gov/region6/brownfields

Grant Recipient: Camden, AR

870-836-6436

The cooperative agreement for this grant has not yet been negotiated; therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.

program will serve the City of Camden and surrounding counties within a 50-mile commuting radius that have been affected by brownfields and economic decline. According to the city's recent labor market

survey, environmental technicians and certified asbestos abatement workers are in strong demand in southern Arkansas.